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ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
Public Health of Mirfield
for the Year 1925,

BY

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Certifying Factory Surgeon for Dewsbury,

Medical Officer of Health
for Mirfield.



MIRFIELD :

Wm. Jeffery, [Telephone 192], Printer and Bookbinder, King Street.

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MIRFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,
1925 - 26.**

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LESLIE J. MILNE, M.D., M.A.

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CHAS. HY. SCHOLEFIELD.

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1925 - 26.**

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MEDICAL OFFICERS ;
LESLIE J. MILNE, M.D., M.A.
LAWRENCE PICK, M.B., D.P.H.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health for Mirfield and the Sanitary Inspector.

TO THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE MIRFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Twenty-First Annual Report on the Public Health of Mirfield. Every fifth year it is desired by the Ministry of Health, that a rather fuller report, called a Survey Report, shall be provided, although elaborate details are not required from Urban Districts.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

AREA : (in acres) 3394.

POPULATION : Census 1921—12,330.

Estimated 1925—12,390.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE AREA :—

The present Township consists of a union effected at an unknown date of two Ancient Vills, Mirfield and Hopton, both of which occur in the Domesday Book (1086). It lies between Dewsbury and Huddersfield. The greatest length of the district from East to West is about $2\frac{5}{8}$ miles, and from North to South about 3 miles.

On the south side of the River Calder the land rises rather steeply to a height of 600 feet, and the land on the north side rises to a height of 426 feet, the slope being more gradual. The bed of the Calder is about 150 feet above Ordnance Datum.

The River Calder flows through the district, and about three-fourths of the district has a natural drainage to the river, whilst the remaining fourth which lies on the north-east side (Northorpe Ward), forms part of the Spen Valley, with a drainage to the Spen Beck, a tributary of the Calder.

At one time the river was famed for its purity, and fishing was a common pastime, and even public baptisms on a large scale were performed in the river as late as the thirties or forties of the last century. Its pollution must be relatively recent.

Although Mirfield retains on the whole its rural character, its chief industry—Woollens—is of early origin. Cloth-Fulling is mentioned here towards the end of the Thirteenth Century. Coal was dug in the vicinity not long afterwards.

The Population in 1825 was short of 6,000. The first very marked expansion of house building took place about the middle of last century, and houses built in this period and shortly afterwards are still occupied in large numbers. There are also many occupied cottages dating from the middle of the eighteenth century.

THE SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

There are about 3,276 occupied houses, of which 2,957 are working-class dwellings.

The assessable value, as stated in the valuation list, is £53,092 16s. 3d., and the general district rate is 6/- in the £, yielding £15,927 16s. 10½d. For poor rate purposes the rateable value is £61,319 15s. 0d., and the rate 6/8, yielding £20,439 18s. 4d.

A penny in the £ on the General District Rate yields £222.

Electric Light is supplied by the Council to 844 consumers; the total maximum demand was equal to 26,986 Watt Lamps, including 276 k.w. in Motors and 124 k.w. for heating and ventilating purposes.

The chief manufactures of the district are Heavy Woollen Goods, Blankets, Yarns, Card-Clothing, Brushes, Maltings, Cotton Spinning and Doubling. Coal is also obtainable in the district, and there are several collieries just outside the boundaries.

Trade has been very bad in the district during the year, and there has been much short time and unemployment.

Occupational diseases have not been greatly in evidence: a few cases of Anthrax, Nystagmus and Dermatitis have been investigated.

Vital Statistics.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Births	Legitimate ...	197	106	91	} Birth Rate 16·4.
	Illegitimate ...	6	5	1	

The total number of births actually registered in Mirfield was 194, so that 9 must have taken place in nursing homes outside the district.

Deaths—74 males, 94 females: Total 168. Death rate 13·6.

There were only 158 deaths registered in Mirfield, but 20 'residents' died outside the district, and 10 'non-residents' died in the district.

Thus the corrected number of deaths on which the rates are calculated is 168,

Number of women dying in, or { from sepsis ... 2
in consequence of, childbirth { ,, other causes 2

Deaths of infants under one year of age 39·4 per 1,000 births :
Legitimate, 7. Illegitimate, 1. Total 8.

Ten still-born children were buried with a doctor's or a midwife's certificate.

Eleven inquests were held during the year.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, and ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY during the year 1925.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population.	Death Rate all causes.	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births.	Percentage of Total Deaths Death Cert. by Regist'd Inquest Med. Pract. Cases.	Uncert. causes of Death.	
England and Wales	18·3	12·2	75	92·1	6·9	1·0
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	18·8	12·2	79	92·1	7·3	0·6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000)	18·3	11·2	74	93·0	5·9	1·1
London	18·0	11·7	67	91·1	8·9	0·0
Mirfield	16·4	13·6	39	93·5	6·5	0·0

CAUSES OF DEATH IN MIRFIELD U.D., 1925.

	M.	F.
All Causes	74	94
1 Measles	2	1
2 Influenza	3	5
3 Encephalitis lethargica	1	0
4 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	5
5 Other tuberculous diseases	0	2
6 Cancer, malignant disease	6	11
7 Diabetes	2	1
8 Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	12	8
9 Heart Disease	12	16
10 Arterio-sclerosis	3	3
11 Bronchitis	6	7
12 Pneumonia (all forms)	3	5
13 Appendicitis and typhlitis	1	0
14 Acute and chronic nephritis	1	5
15 Puerperal sepsis	0	3
16 Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	1	3
17 Other deaths from violence	6	0
18 Other defined diseases	14	19

	Estimated Population.	Births.	Birth rate.	Deaths.	Death rate.	Infantile Mortality.
1921 —	12330 (census)	232	18·8	161	13·05	81
1922 —	12410	191	15·3	169	13·6	89
1923 —	12410	237	19·1	166	13·3	84
1924 —	12420	204	16·4	189	15·2	73
1925 —	12390	203	16·4	168	13·6	39

Poor Law Relief.

Out relief paid in Mirfield during 1925 £1,471 19s. 10d.
 „ „ „ „ 1924 £1,499 10s. 4d.

Number of persons sent to Mental Hospital from Mirfield during 1925, 3.

Number of persons admitted into Staincliffe Institution from Mirfield during 1925, 30.

There has been no specially note-worthy cause of sickness or invalidity during the year, nor any special occupational condition prejudicial to health.

General provision of Health Services in the Area.

Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority
 or by the County Council.

1.—TUBERCULOSIS.

A dispensary is provided at 18, Ramsden Street, Huddersfield, and Mirfield patients have been treated in the following Sanatoria: Middleton-in-Wharfedale, Ilkley; Morton Banks, Keighley; Dean Head, Horsforth; Cardigan, Carr Gate, Near Wakefield; Hern Hall, Stanhope, Wakefield; Wyton Hostel, Huntingdon; High-Wood Hospital for Children, Brentwood, Essex.

2.—MATERNITY.

There is not yet any Maternity Home in Mirfield. Patients have been received at Heckmondwike and Dewsbury Maternity Homes, Leeds Maternity Hospital and Huddersfield Maternity Hospital. At the latter the patient's own doctor is expected to attend, and five miles is a long way to go when difficulties arise in delivery.

3.—CHILDREN.

There are a few cots at the Mirfield Memorial Hospital.

4.—FEVER.

Ample accommodation is provided at the Liversedge and Mirfield Joint Infectious Hospital at Crossley for the treatment of fever cases, 70 beds.

5 —SMALL-POX.

Small-pox can also be treated at the above Hospital.

6.—OTHER.

The Mirfield Memorial Hospital contains 16 beds for adults and 2 cots. Both medical and surgical cases are treated there. A large number of operations are performed annually.

There is no special provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the area.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For Infectious Cases: Horse Ambulance kept at the Fever Hospital.

(b) For Non-Infectious Cases and Accidents:

Ravensthorpe Motor Ambulance.

Telephone: Dewsbury 291, day

„ „ 886 or 344, night.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres: (Consultation) at Ings Grove, Mirfield. Every Friday: 2 to 5 p.m. Provided by W.R.C.C.

Day Nurseries, None.

School Clinics: Ings Grove, Mirfield. Mondays and Fridays, 9 to 12 a.m. W.R.C.C.

Tuberculosis—Huddersfield Tuberculosis Dispensary. Tuesdays and Fridays, 2 to 4 p.m.

Venereal Diseases: Dewsbury Infirmary, Monday, 3-0 p.m. Thursday, 6-0 p.m.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

The Medical Officer, the Sanitary Inspector, District Nurses (3), and Health Visitors (2), receive a contribution to their salaries under the Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants.

LESLIE J. MILNE, M.D., M.A., M.O.H.

EDWIN GILL, Surveyor.

CHAS. H. SCHOLEFIELD, Sanitary Inspector.

MISS E. A. DAVIESON, C.M.B., R.S.I. certif., Health Visitor.

MISS ABBOTT,

SISTER MILLINGTON, „ District Nurse. „ „

SISTER MCCOLL, „ „ „

SISTER TEMPLE, „ „ „

G. WHITEHEAD, Veterinary Surgeon.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) GENERAL.—Mirfield is exceedingly fortunate in regard to its Nursing Association. This is nobly supported by the public, and except for a small subsidy from the Ministry of Health towards midwifery, is maintained entirely by voluntary contributions. There are three fully-trained nurses, each taking a certain district. The nurses made 8,783 visits on 620 patients during the year, in addition to attending 166 confinements.

Voluntary subscriptions amounted to £509 10s. 10d., and the total receipts were £718 8s. 0d. This includes £159 12s. 0d. maternity fees paid by nurses, and £15 grant from the Ministry of

Health towards the midwifery nursing. The Association has now a balance in hand of £1,062 5s. 6d. Surely this is an excellent record for six years' work! It is my hope that ere long it may be possible to provide a Maternity Home in Mirfield.

(b) FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES—

During epidemics of measles, whooping cough, etc., the Health Visitors are instructed to visit. It was not necessary to close any school for measles during the year, nor for any other infectious disease. Other Infectious Diseases are nearly always isolated immediately at the Fever Hospital.

MIDWIVES.

The three trained (district) nurses are all certified midwives, and hold the Central Midwives' Board Certificate. During the year they attended 166 out of 194, which was the total number of births actually taking place in Mirfield. Ninety-one of these cases were attended along with a doctor, and seventy-five without medical aid. In addition, there are two certified, though untrained, midwives, practising in the Northorpe Area, and these have attended a considerable number in that district, usually without a doctor.

PUBLIC ANALYST'S REPORTS.

Five samples of milk were analysed by the public analyst, and all found genuine.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

				Date when put into force.
Private Streets Works' Act,	1892	...	...	June 1st, 1899.
Public Health Act, A.A.	1890	Part III	...	July 1st, 1891.
"	"	"	"	1907 Sections 27 & 33,
				and all Part III Sept. 28th, 1909.
"	"	"	"	1907 Part VI ... June 17th, 1921.
"	"	"	"	1907 Section 51 ... June 28th, 1922.

BYE-LAWS & REGULATIONS

IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

				Date of Approval.
Cleansing of Footways	...	...	...	January 29th, 1874.
Scavenging	...	...	...	January 29th, 1874.
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	January 29th, 1874.
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	January 29th, 1874.
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	October 26th, 1922.
New Streets and Buildings—New Bye-Laws submitted for approval.				

WATER--The district receives its water supply from Huddersfield Corporation. The supply is constant and direct to the houses.

RIVERS & STREAMS—The river Calder runs through the area and is in a polluted state when it enters the district. Any pollution from domestic sources is very small, being from isolated houses only. The manufacturers treat their own trade-waste and discharge their effluent into the river.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE—Except in isolated cases the district is well provided with sewers. The Sewage Disposal Works are very efficient, no complaints having been received from the Rivers' Board for several years.

Sanitary Administration.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—

Number of Privies	...	...	...	...	...	1096
„ „ Privy Ashpits (covered)	...	...	...	...	...	620
„ „ „ „ (open)...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ „ Dry Ashpits	...	...	...	...	...	306
„ „ Bins	...	...	...	...	...	932
„ „ Water-Closets	...	...	...	...	...	1754
„ „ Waste Water-Closets	...	...	...	...	...	100
„ „ Pail or Tub	„	...	...	...	...	46

The following, which are included in the above totals, have been provided during the year :—

By conversion of Privies, Water-Closets	...	...	37
By provision of extra closet accommodation to old property, where insufficient, Water-Closets	...	...	9
For new property, Water-Closets	...	...	22

	No. of Privies	No. of W.C.'s.	No. of Waste W.C.'s.	Tub or Pail Closets.	Bins.
Eastthorpe Ward	... 189	569	29	2	422
Hopton Ward	... 231	317	39	28	144
Battleyford Ward	... 312	548	30	12	242
Northorpe Ward	... 364	320	2	4	124
	1,096	1,754	100	46	932

The abolition of the privy type of accommodation is receiving the attention of the Council, and the sum of £200 was set aside for that purpose during 1925. The populous and closely-built centres are receiving first attention, and the numbers converted to the water-carriage system during recent years are : 1921—21, 1922—24, 1923—41, 1924—36, 1925—37.

COLLECTION COSTS :—

	£	s.	d.
Scavengers' Wages	...	...	...
Team Labour	...	...	...
Motor for Collection of fish refuse	...	...	...
	1,634	2	4 $\frac{1}{4}$

Collection Costs brought forward ... 1,634 2 4 $\frac{1}{4}$

Cost of Disposal—

	Number of Loads.	Average 14 cwts. T. C.		Cost. £ s. d.
Garforth's Tip	2,269	1588-6	at 1/- per load	113 9 0
Stocks Bank „	2,289	1602-6	Tipman's Wages	105 7 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mount „	436	305-4	at 13/4 per month	8 0 0
Land „	2,207	1544-18	no charge	
Spenboro' Dest.	89	62-6		12 13 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
	<hr/> 7,290	<hr/> 5103-0		<hr/> 239 9 6 $\frac{1}{4}$
				<hr/> 1,873 11 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
By Collection of Trade Refuse and Salvage ...				67 13 9
				<hr/> £1,805 18 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

SCAVENGING—

The removal of domestic refuse is now having more regular and systematic attention, privies and ashpits being emptied and cleaned out every four to five weeks, and bins every week.

The refuse is disposed of on three tips and on land, but the accommodation on two of the tips is almost exhausted. An enquiry was held in September, when the Ministry of Health authorised the Mirfield District Council to borrow money for the purchase of low-lying land for the purpose of a refuse tip. The land is situated at Lowlands, and the area covers about 15 acres. It is expected to last about 30 years.

The proposed method of dealing with the refuse on this land is by stripping the soil, tipping to an average depth of six feet and re-soiling.

There is still much refuse to collect and dispose of, which could, and ought to be burned on the domestic fire, in the interest of both public health and economy.

The number of houses where moveable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles during recent years are as follows: 1920—7, 1921—6, 1922—21, 1923—24, 1924—28, 1925—41.

The collection and disposal of shop refuse is (on request) carried out by the Council, at a charge of 1/- per week for ordinary trade refuse and 1/6 per week for fish refuse.

Both fish refuse and diseased meat are disposed of, “at a reasonable charge, by the kind permission of the Spenboro' U.D.C.” at their destructor.

The number and nature of the Inspections made during the year 1925 are as follows :

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1925.

Premises Inspected,			
Re Accumulations ...	4	Entertainment Houses ...	14
„ Animals, Poultry, &c. ...	2	Factories and Workshops ...	54
Ashplaces and Ashbins ...	827	Houses—For Gen. Inspection ...	3,153
Bakehouses ...	28	Housing Acts ...	13
Canal Boats ...	9	Re Infectious Disease ...	28
Closets—Water ...	145	Disinfected ...	27
Privies ...	595	Interviews with Owners, &c. ...	65
Tubs ...	6	Meat & Food Inspt.-Condemns ...	166
Conversions ...	14	Other ...	595
Complaints—Received ...	15	Offensive Trade Premises ...	27
Confirmed ...	9	Samples under Food & Drugs Act ...	1
Cowsheds ...	146	Slaughterhouses ...	385
Dairies, Milkshops, &c. ...	108	Smoke Observations ...	93
Dangerous Structures ...	3	Tips ...	78
Drains—Inspected ...	13	Urinals—Public ...	47
Tested ...	12	Private ...	42
Work in progress ...	295	Van Dwelling ...	9
		Yards, Streets and Back Roads ...	3

The number and nature of the Nuisances discovered during 1925 are as follows :

Dirty Houses ...	1	Offensive Accumulations ...	10
Defective Drains ...	32	Water Supply Insufficient ...	3
„ Dust Bins ...	9	Defective Yards, Streets, &c. ...	6
„ Fall Pipes & Gutters ...	41	„ Water Closets ...	41
Damp Premises ...	2	„ Sinks, Waste-pipes ...	13
Defective Gullies ...	3	„ Urinals ...	2
„ Roofs ...	13	Smoke Nuisance ...	1
„ Privies and Ashpits ...	40	Leaky Gas-pipe ...	1
Overcrowded Rooms ...	2		
			220

Total Re-Inspections ... 280.

Total Number of Nuisances discovered during 1925.....	220
„ „ „ Nuisances outstanding Dec. 31st, 1924...	24
	244
„ „ „ Informal Notices served during 1925 ...	244
„ „ „ „ „ complied with „ „ ...	210
„ „ „ Statutory „ served during „ „ ...	21
„ „ „ „ „ „ complied with during „ „ ...	20
	230
Outstanding Dec. 31st, 1925	14

Legal proceedings were taken in one case for the abatement of a nuisance, and a conviction obtained.

MILK SUPPLY—

It is still to be regretted, that the conditions and methods under which much of the milk is produced in the district, are not conducive to a clean, wholesome milk supply.

A course of Clean Milk Production Classes, promoted by the Department of Agriculture and the North Eastern Centre of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association, has been held during the year at the University, Leeds, for the members of the Association, and by attending the classes Sanitary Inspectors had the opportunity of gaining a knowledge of the modern methods of milk production and distribution, which, if adopted by milk producers, will undoubtedly result in a clean, wholesome milk supply.

MEAT--

The notification of time and place of slaughter as required by the P.H. Meat Regulations 1924 has been well observed, as have also the requirements as regards Stalls, Shops, Stores and Vehicles.

595 visits to slaughterhouses during time of slaughter have been made, and the carcasses and organs of 504 Beasts, 570 Sheep and Lambs, 572 Pigs and 14 Calves, have been inspected, resulting in the condemnation and surrender of 1 ton 0 cwt 26 lbs. of diseased meat.

There is no public slaughterhouse in the district. The number of private slaughterhouses in use is as follows:

	In 1920.	In January 1925.	In December 1925.
Registered	7	7	7
Licensed	8	4	4
	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 11

SMOKE ABATEMENT—

Observations are made from time to time of the smoke emitted from the factory and works chimneys in the district, and a report is sent to each firm of the emission on each occasion.

When the Council's maximum allowance of ten minutes in the hour is exceeded, notices are served for the abatement of excessive emission of dense smoke, and as a result of the 96 observations taken during the year, 6 notices have been served on firms exceeding the maximum. Doubtless much fuel is still being wasted, and the atmosphere unnecessarily polluted thereby.

No local readings of atmospheric impurities are taken.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY
BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

In addition to cowsheds and slaughterhouses, the number of which is given elsewhere, there are in the district 15 fish friers and 1 soap boiler, controlled by the Council's Bye-laws. There are no lodging houses or underground sleeping rooms in the district.

SCHOOLS.

All the schools in the district have now being provided with water-closets with the exception of the Northorpe Provided and the Northorpe St. Luke's Non-Provided which are still served by privies and pail-closets respectively.

Housing.

(I) The housing shortage has been relieved during the five years January 1921 to December 1925, by the provision of 173 houses by the Local Authority and 26 by private persons, and the present activities of both L.A. and Private Enterprise in the provision of more houses are most encouraging.

(II) There is a fair amount of overcrowding in the district, chiefly due to two families occupying one house.

Fifty-two overcrowded families have been accommodated in the new houses provided by the Council.

There has been no marked change in the population during the period under review.

(III) **FITNESS OF HOUSES.**—There is much property in the district almost beyond repair, but still occupied until further houses can be built to accommodate the tenants.

Many of the houses have damp walls and are situated on damp sites, and neither owner nor tenant can easily remedy the defects.

Two unfit houses have been repaired and made temporarily fit for habitation at Walker's Buildings, Nab Lane, and 4 houses have been demolished at bottom of Crossley Lane.

(IV) The number of cases of Tuberculosis notified in Walker's Row, Battysford, calls for strong action. There have been 33 cases in 30 years.

Total number of houses built in the district under state-aided and all conditions 1925—(a) Working Class Dwellings, 22; (b) Other, 5.

Total number of houses provided under all state-aided schemes in 1925 - 22.

Many other houses are in process of erection, both subsidy and non-subsidy houses.

(VI) **HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.**

Number of New Houses erected during the year :

(a) Total including number given separately under (b)	..	27
(b) With State assistance under Housing Acts :		
(i) By the Local Authority	.. .. .	6
(ii) By other bodies or persons	.. .. .	16

Number erected in 1921—73. 1922—39. 1923—7. 1924—43.

Ten more houses were erected between 1921 and 1924 (previously omitted.)

1. *Unfit dwelling-houses—Inspection.*

(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	13
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Inspection of District Regulations, 1910 or the Housing Acts, 1919 & 1925	13
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..	12

2. *Remedy of defects without service of formal notices*

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ..	12
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3. *No action taken under Sections 17 or 18, 1909 Act or Sections 9, 11 & 14 of the Housing Act, 1925.*

C. H. SCHOLEFIELD,

(Sanitary Inspector).

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases.

Table showing total number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during 1921—25.

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	Cases admitted 1925. to Hosp. deaths in 1925. in 1925.	Total
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	4	26	18	10	9	9
Diphtheria ...	5	2	—	2	1	1
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	1	—	2	2 (Mem ^l)
Pneumonia ...	1	5	27	39	16	2 (Mem ^l)
Erysipelas ...	2	7	6	10	9	8

It is thus evident that Infectious Diseases have not been very prevalent during the last five years.

Isolation at Crossley Hospital is the rule, and patients are so kindly treated there that it is often difficult to prevail on them to go home. There has hardly been any opportunity to use the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

The Vaccination Officer informs me that in the "Registration District of Mirfield and Ravensthorpe, there were 155 successful vaccinations and 164 exemptions." ; whilst Dr. T. W. Sproule informs me that 63 were vaccinated in Mirfield out of 78 on the list.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and deaths from the disease during 1925—

Age-Periods.				New Cases.				Deaths.			
				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	...	...	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	2
10	...	...	...	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	...	...	...	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25	...	...	...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	...	...	...	1	4	1	1	1	2	—	—
45	...	...	...	1	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
55	...	...	...	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
65	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...				6	10	3	5	1	5	—	2

TUBERCULOSIS SCHEMES.

Number remaining on register at end of the year ...	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total.
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	
	41	50	91	25	14	39	
							130

The list of Dispensaries and Sanatoria has already been given in this report.

The Dispensary Doctor recommends suitable cases for Sanatorium.

In cases in which the diagnosis is doubtful, frequent specimens of sputum are examined, and patient advised to go occasionally to the dispensary.

Sometimes the dispensary nurses visit infected houses and encourage 'contacts' to go up to dispensary for inspection.

(IX) Dental treatment is provided only occasionally, perhaps once in two years, which is not nearly often enough. Arrangements have now been made for a better service.

(X) Arrangements for the provision of nursing or of extra nourishment for patients living at home—

The Health Visitor and sometimes the District Nurse attends to home patients, and the "care" committee assists to provide extra nourishment and comforts.

(XI) Cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis, especially of bones and joints in adults and in children, are usually sent to hospitals specially equipped for the purpose.

(XII) The arrangements for the "care" and "after care"—

A committee was formed in September 1924, the object being to help with extra nourishment, advice and sympathy, those afflicted with tuberculosis, and notified as such from the Huddersfield Dispensary. In order to raise funds, dances were given in November 1924 and January 1926, and a private band provided the music.

Mirfield has now accepted full responsibility for its own district. So far 23 cases have been assisted, at an expenditure of £55 4s. 3d. Patients have been fitted out for Sanatorium. Gifts of underclothing will be thankfully received. There is a balance in hand of £100. Mrs. Wilson, Hopton Court, is President, and the other members are Mrs. Abraham Walker, Mrs. Joshua Lister, Mrs. S. Radcliffe, Mrs. Albert Lister, Mrs. F. P. Mitchell, Mrs. Aubrey Crowther, Mrs. McGrath, Col. James Walker, Mr. Alex. Simpson, Mr. R. Kilner, Mr. A. E. Thompson and Dr. Milne.

(XIII) Frequently the after-care committee has been able to obtain work for patients from employers of labour.

(XIV) Shelters have frequently been supplied to patients in Mirfield, but it often happens that the home surroundings are quite unsuitable for their use.

(XV) It cannot be said that any single occupation has caused a large proportion of the cases.

MIRFIELD CASES TREATED AT HUDDERSFIELD IN 1925.

	Male Civilian.	Female Civilian.	Ex. Service.
No. of Old Cases treated in 1925	34	24	9
No. of Cases admitted and treated in 1925	12	5	0
	—	—	—
Total Cases treated ...	46	29	9
No. of Cases sent to Sanatorium in 1925	3	4	0
„ Deaths	4	0	1
„ Visits by Dispensary Nurses ...	18	12	3
„ „ Nurse Davieson—	Civilians, 180 ; Ex-Service, 19.		

John E. Gething, M.B., C.H.B.,
District Tuberculosis Officer.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Dewsbury and District Infirmary is the nearest hospital where treatment is given, and most of the Mirfield cases attend there. No particulars are furnished.

An excellent Cinema Lecture was given by Colonel Harrison, 68, Ecclestone Square, S.W.1, at a Picture Palace in Wakefield, in the

month of March, 1926. Over one hundred doctors were present, and everyone was delighted with the clear way in which diagnosis and treatment were so vividly demonstrated.

Several cases have been treated locally by Arsenobenzol Compounds.

CANCER.

A great campaign to fight this dreadful scourge has been started throughout the country, and nowhere with greater energy than in Leeds. No less than 17 died in Mirfield during 1925 from this disease, i.e.—10% of the total deaths. 1921—12 deaths; 1922—22; 1923—14; 1924—15.

Cancer often begins with a small growth, sore, crack, laceration, lump, or ulcer, which resists ordinary treatment, but is then easily removeable. Early recognition and early treatment are at present the only hope for cure.

Mirfield Child Welfare Clinic Annual Treat.

AN ENJOYABLE EVENT.

(Reprinted from the "Mirfield and Ravensthorpe Reporter.")

The Annual Treat in connection with the Mirfield Child Welfare Clinic took place at St. Paul's School on January 30th, and proved a very happy and profitable event. Excellent arrangements for the success of the function had been made by the Welfare Clinic Committee, of which Mrs T. Marsden is president, and over three hundred mothers and their babies spent a very enjoyable time. At intervals Mrs. Tinker's dancing girls gave pleasing exhibitions, and a splendid tea, given by members of the committee, was served.

The tea was preceded by speech-making, over which the Rev. A. B. Pratt presided. He spoke in high terms of the work being done by the clinic, and said he thought the movement would help to dispel the prevalent idea that the wealthier classes shunned those less fortunate. He expressed pleasure that the nation was focussing its attentions upon the good health of its children, and remarked that mothers who attended the clinic must reap many benefits.

Dr. Leslie J. Milne, the Medical Officer of Health, after giving a welcome to Mr. Pratt, said preventive medicine was by far the most important part of local administration, and the Child Welfare Clinic was surely included in that category. The Centre was now three years old, and the attendance had increased each year, there being now 465 babies on the register. There were 194 births registered in 1925, and 142 of those infants had attended the Clinic on 46 Fridays. The total attendance of infants had been 3,058, averaging 66 per session. One day there were over 100 present. Although they had excellent headquarters at Ings Grove, they were very cramped for space, and on

many days it was impossible to get even half of those attending, into the waiting-room, particularly so when a lecture was being given. It was a pleasure to state, that only one baby who had attended the clinic had died, and that was after an operation at Huddersfield. As Medical Officer of Health he would be able to report the lowest infantile mortality on record for Mirfield, viz., 39 per thousand births, which compared very favourably with 130 per thousand 20 years ago. There were only eight deaths of babies under one year of age, and seven of these were caused almost immediately after birth by prematurity. The pre-natal clinic which was started last year had been a great success. Fifty-eight mothers had attended, and much important advice had been given. Several had been advised to enter a Maternity Home, and it was a great pity that Mirfield did not possess such an Institution. As Medical Officer, he had also examined 86 school children, while Nurse Davieson had had 477 new school clinic cases. The attendances for the year were 4,423, and 83 children were referred to their own doctors for treatment. The greatest event of the year was the winning of the Wembley Exhibition Shield by Lena Barker, who had thus been proclaimed the best baby (under 8 months) in Britain. She received a cheque for £20, and a £25 endowment policy, whilst the shield ornamented their waiting-room at Ings Grove, and would continue to do so for twelve months. He hoped that the local success would stimulate many more Mirfield mothers to enter their children in similar competitions. Four sets of twins had attended the clinic. Another useful feature was the Essay Competition for mothers, who had to outline the benefits to be derived from the clinic. In conclusion, Dr. Milne thanked the ladies who had acted as voluntary workers for their attendances and kindly interest, and he also paid tribute to the work of Nurse Davieson and Nurse Abbott. The clinic had been honoured, he added, by the presence of Father Paul Bull, of the Community of the Resurrection, who had unveiled the shield previously mentioned, and who had shown further interest in the organisation by making a generous donation of £5, along with a large batch of pamphlets dealing with maternity work, which he had brought from America.

Many addresses were given by the Medical Officer and by the Nurses during the year. And special addresses were given in most of the schools during "Health Week."

About 800 mothers and babies and school children attended at the Town Hall in March, to see a film on "The care of the teeth." The film was most educational as well as amusing and all present seemed highly delighted.

Circumcision is an operation very rarely required in infants attending the clinic, as practically all cases are treated by dilatation.

MIRFIELD CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

BALANCE SHEET FOR 1925-26.

INCOME.		EXPENDITURE.			
				£	s. d.
Balance in Bank ...	...	Malt & Oil ...	...	4	4 0
Sales of Malt & Oil	...	Ambrosia ...	...	36	0 0
Ambrosia	...	Almata ...	...	19	9 7
Almata	...	Lactagol ...	...	12	7 6
Lactagol	...	Garments ...	...	7	7 7
Garments	...	Tablecovers ...	...	0	16 11
Small Subscriptions	...	Parke Davies & Co. ...	...	0	5 1
Subscriptions to Garden Party	...	Postage, &c. ...	...	2	0 0
Christmas Tea	...	Dental Film ...	...	1	0 0
Proceeds from Whist-Drive	...	Prize Shield from London	...	2	15 0
* Subscription from Rev. Fr. Bull, C.R.	...	Photos, Sanitas, etc.	...	0	14 4
		Printing ...	...	2	6 0
		Garden Party	...	11	17 1
		Christmas Party	...	8	7 2
		Presentation Bag	...	1	5 6
		Cheque Book	...	0	5 0
				111	0 9
		Cash in Bank...	...	18	9 10
		Cash in Hand...	...	5	12 4
				£135	2 11

* In memory of his sister Olive and her husband Augustus Rogers.

Audited and found correct, March 10th, 1926,
CHAS. W. THORNTON.

OPHTHALMIA NEO-NATORUM.

Two mild cases were reported, but both readily responded to treatment at home,

School Work.

No. of School Visits.	No. of Children Examined.	No. Homes Visited.	No. Neglected Ver., etc.	No. of other Cases.
89	2,664	156	75	89

Health Work.

Births Notified.	1st Visits.	Re-Visits.	Specials.	Pre-Natal	Measles.	Civilian.	Tubercular Ex-Service Men.
204	180	1,846	210	52	28	180	19

Glaxo. free ... 82 cartons. cost price ... 2,208 ,,
 Virol. cost price ... 640 lbs.
 Malt and Oil - cost price ... 288 lbs.

Almata, 264 lbs. ; Ambrosia, 480 lbs. ; Lactagol, 216 lbs. ; at cost price.

Many Woollen Garments were sold at cost price.

ETHEL A. DAVIESON.

Meteorology.

Kindly supplied by Mr. F. P. Mitchell.

Months	Minimum Temperature.	Maximum Temperature.	Rain		Months	Minimum Temperature.	Maximum Temperature.	Rain.	
			No. of Days.	Amount in inches.				No. of Days.	Amount in inches.
Jan...	34.5	47.2	15	3.35	July	51.12	78.3	8	1.35
Feb..	33.14	51.19	20	4.41	Aug.	50.25	77.15	13	3.73
Mar...	33.3	52.20	11	1.11	Sept.	42.27	71.24	15	2.70
April	35.10	59.21	15	2.36	Oct.	41.28	63.15	17	3.48
May	42.13	64.16	18	4.04	Nov.	29.9	48.27	11	2.37
June	47.4	76.4	2	.85	Dec.	28.28	40.24	15	3.91

Total days of rain, 160.

Total rainfall, 33.66 in inches.

This compares with 188 days and 32.48 inches in 1924.

Taken at Cote Wall, Mirfield, 1925.

Factories and Workshops.

The total number of boys examined was 240, girls 488, compared with 332 and 571 in 1924.

Fifty-four boys and fifty-eight girls were examined at Grosvenor Hall, Dewsbury, or at my surgery.

Thirty were rejected for various causes.

Six cases of anthrax were reported, and all were treated with Schlavo's Serum.

There were two cases of nystagmus, seven of dermatitis, three of beat-knee, and one of eczematous ulceration.

Tables C & D have been forwarded, but not printed.

Your obedient servant,

LESLIE J. MILNE,

Medical Officer of Health for Mirfield and
Certifying Factory Surgeon for Dewsbury.

*Balgownie House,
Mirfield,
29th May, 1926.*

